

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 00856 181935Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 NIC-01 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 017598

R 181921Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7219

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00856

DEPT PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UK

SUBJECT: CIA MEN IN BRITAIN

REF: LONDON 803

1. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF JANUARY 18 LONDON TIMES ARTICLE ON THE SUPPOSED INCREASE OF CIA MEN IN BRITAIN. WALKER ARTICLE STATES THAT AMERICAN FEARS ABOUT ARAB TERRORISM AND THE BRITISH CRISIS HAVE LED TO AN INCREASE OF 30 TO 40 CIA AND NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY AGENTS, MANY OF THEM SKILLED IN ADVANCED SURVEILLANCE TECHNIQUES. ARTICLE QUOTES MILES COPELAND, DESCRIBED AS FORMER SENIOR CIA AGENT AND INTELLIGENCE EXPERT, AS FOLLOWS: "RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THE TOP MEN IN THE CIA BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT SPATE OF STRIKES IN BRITAIN HAS FAR MORE SINISTER MOTIVES THAN THE MERE WINNING OF EXTRA WAGES. THEY BELIEVE THAT THE AIM IS TO BRING ABOUT A SITUATION IN WHICH IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE KIND OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT YOU ENJOY HERE TO CONTINUE." WALKER THEN STATES THAT IN ADDITION TO CIA MEN ASSIGNED TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, EXTRA MEN ARE OPERATING INSIDE AMERICAN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY RESEARCH AND ADVISORY OFFICES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 00856 181935Z

2. REPORT SAYS THAT COPELAND, WHO MAINTAINS CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE CIA, CLAIMS INCREASE WELL KNOWN TO BRITISH SERVICES AND THAT CIA ALLOWED TO OPERATE DUE TO SUPERIOR TECHNICAL COMPETENCE AND BECAUSE OF FREEDOM NOT ALLOWED BRITISH SECURITY SERVICES. COPELAND IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS PREVENT M15 FROM ACTING EFFECTIVELY AS RESTRICTIONS PRECLUDE ACTIVITY NECESSARY TO TRACK DOWN TERRORISTS AND SUBVERSIVES. SUCH ACTIVITY IS SUPPOSED TO BE IN LINE WITH CIA POLICY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD IN TIMES OF DOMESTIC CRISIS.

3. THE ARTICLE POINTS OUT THAT CIA HAS BRITISH NATIONAL AGENTS IN BRITISH TRADE UNIONS AND THAT MOST REPORTS COLLECTED ARE PASSED ON TO BRITISH SERVICES FOR THE ACTION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. ARTICLE FURTHER QUOTES COPELAND AS SAYING THAT CIA HAS BEEN TRYING TO CONVINCE THE BRITISH OF THE POWER OF SUBVERSIVES WITHIN THE UNIONS AND THAT PRESENT BRITISH SITUATION MAKES UK A TROUBLEMAKER'S DREAM.

4. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT OTHER REASON FOR INFLUX OF INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL IS THREAT TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY AS PRIME TARGET OF ARAB TERRORISTS AND MENTIONS RECENT EXPOSURE OF TIES BETWEEN ARAB GUERILLAS AND THE IRA. BULK OF CIA PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO LONDON BECAUSE OF LANGUAGE PROBLEMS IN OTHER EUROPEAN CAPITALS AND BECAUSE OF CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRITISH AND AMERICAN SERVICES.

5. COMMENT: PAO DISCUSSED ARTICLE WITH "TIMES" DEPUTY EDITOR LOUIS HEREN WHO STATED HE HAD NOT SEEN IT UNTIL IT APPEARED IN THE EARLY EDITIONS. HE STATED HE DID NOT LIKE IT AND AGREED THAT IT WAS PERNICIOUS.

SOHM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURVEILLANCE, PARAMILITARY FORCES, PRESS COMMENTS, INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON00856
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740132/aaaabeav.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LONDON 803
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 DEC 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <23-Jul-2001 by maustmc, RDFRD>; RELEASED <26 DEC 2002 by golinofr>; APPROVED <26 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIA MEN IN BRITAIN
TAGS: PINT, UK, US, LONDON TIMES, CIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005